Re: Docket No. 98N-1038, "Irradiation in the Production, Processing, and Handling of Food"

To whom it may concern:

I am concerned about the prospect of weakened or eliminated labeling requirements for irradiated food. I feel that any foods that have been irradiated, as well as any foods containing irradiated ingredients should be clearly marked on the primary display panel with a label indicative of such treatment. Such labels should include a written statement and be accompanied by the radura.

I feel that, as a consumer, I have the right to know how my food has been processed. With proper labeling on food products, I will be able to assess for myself which products have been treated with radiation, and make an educated decision about which of them I choose to purchase. My concern over this issue transcends the controversy over food-irradiation. I believe that consumer freedom of choice is at stake, in that a choice based on incomplete information (as would be provided by unlabeled irradiated food) in not truly a freely made choice. Please see that labeling requirements are strengthened, not weakened.

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